

**REMARKS**

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gebara et al. (US 6,035,407) in view of Philips Semiconductors, "PCA9559 System Management ICs", 2000. Claims 2-15 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim.

1. Rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a):

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gebara et al. (US 6,035,407) in view of Philips Semiconductors, "PCA9559 System Management Ics", 2000, for reasons of record, as recited on pages 2-3 of the above-indicated Office action.

**Response:**

Claim 1 is canceled.

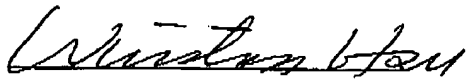
2. Objection to claims 2-15:

Claims 2-15 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

**Response:**

Claim 2 has been amended to include the limitations of original claims 1 and 2. All of claims 3-15 are dependent on the currently amended claim 2. Therefore, claims 2-15 are all in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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